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May 23, 2014

The Honorable Tom Wheeler
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 – 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Sir:

I would like to formally discuss FCC's efforts to serve Tribal Lands. I feel Broadband Technologies have the potential to help Tribal Communities create jobs and promote economic growth. The development of Broadband Communication Networks can lead to new innovations and investment as well as improve education, health care, energy efficiency, public safety and self-governance on Tribal Lands.

The Standing Rock Sioux Tribe has made major investments in wireless communications infrastructure and created its own FCC Licensed Telecommunications Provider called "Standing Rock Telecommunications Inc.". We truly believe in the value of communication. Through this experience we have assembled great knowledge of the Telecommunications Industry. It is in this spirit that we request the FCC to consider the following:

- The FCC rules for the upcoming 600 mhz auction are great for small carriers. We would like you to consider taking that a step further and granting Tribes that spectrum for their respective Tribal land areas. This rule would provide for great spectrum, comprehensive wireless service, economically sustainable Tribal Teleco's, and great device ecosystems as the two large carriers would have the same spectrum in different markets resulting in common manufactured handsets.
- Best evidence indicates that the broadband deployment rate on Tribal Lands is less than 20 percent, and anecdotal evidence suggests that actual usage rates may be as low as 8 to 10 percent. Providing premium spectrum to Tribes (spectrum = the two big carriers) will result in a competitive environment that Tribes can participate in to serve their members and residents in a comprehensive, affordable and sustainable method.

We look forward to meeting with you on this important matter.

Sincerely,

Dave Archambault II, Chairman
Standing Rock Sioux Tribe